



Same HD, New PC

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Introduction

Someone in my family breaks, on average, a new consumer notebook computer every 18 months...



Left desperate, I bought her a late 2007, second-hand, semi-rugged [Panasonic Toughbook™ CF-52 Mk1](#). This ageless, [MIL-STD-810F](#) standard notebook features an [Intel® Core™2 Duo Processor T7100](#) —2MB cache, 1.80GHz clock speed, 800MHz FSB—, 2048MB 667MHz-clocked DDR2 RAM, [Intel® GMA X3100 graphics](#) and of course a carrying handle. It weighs in at 3.45kg without counting its sizeable 0.82kg, 8A, 15.6V power “brick”. Not that this computer consumes a lot of power; the high current rating is for charging its massive 86.6Wh battery which delivers over 8 hours of autonomy.

Enough bragging... The Toughbook™ was given a thorough cleaning after removing the Windows™ XP stickers. Its [hard disk was replaced](#) with the one of the broken notebook which already ran [Xubuntu 12.04 LTS](#). The CF-52 booted without any problem. Admittedly, I still had `GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT="quiet splash acpi_osi=Linux"` in `/etc/default/grub`, which dates back to the broken notebook. The WLAN adapter got up and running without any hocus pocus.

Nonetheless, whenever pulling a hard disk from one computer and putting it into another one, a few configuration changes may be deemed necessary. These are listed below.

Keyboard layout

The new system may have a different keyboard layout. Changing the keyboard layout in the desktop manager is all too easy. However, in adverse times, it is good to have the keyboard layout of the `[Ctrl]+[Alt]+[F1]...[F6]` consoles configured correctly in advance. Here is how that is done.

```
$ sudo dpkg-reconfigure keyboard-configuration
$ sudo reboot
```

Hostname

If you are like me, naming your computers after their CPU or model name, you will need to change the hostname of the system. On Debian-based systems, two `/etc` files require editing:

```
$ sudo gvim /etc/hostname
$ sudo gvim /etc/hosts
$ sudo reboot
```

Public SSH key

```
$ gedit .ssh/id_rsa.pub
```

Sensors

lm-sensors

```
$ sudo sensors-detect
```



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This work is published at https://hamwaves.com/same_hd.new_pc/en/.

Last update: Monday, March 1, 2021.